UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE, PHARMACY, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY "GEORGE EMIL PALADE" OF TÂRGU MUREŞ DOCTORAL SCHOOL IN LETTERS, HUMANISTIC AND APPLIED SCIENCES FIELD: PHILOLOGY

DOCTORAL THESIS

SUMMARY

PhD student:

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Scientific coordinator:

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RADU MAREŞ. MONOGRAPHIC STUDY

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TÂRGU MUREŞ

Doctoral thesis *Radu Mareş. Monographic study* brings to the fore the literary activity through which, in Romanian literature, Radu Mareş, post-war prose writer, stood out in the period 1972-2016. This work aims to be a monograph, which has as its starting point the life, activity and work of the writer, a complex personality who enriches Romanian literature with a significant number of novels, short prose and publications, in periodicals of the time.

The motivation of the present research has in mind the realization of Radu Mareş's monograph by analyzing, interpreting and identifying the most important characteristics of his prose, by studying his publishing activity and by investigating his correspondence, following synthetically and analytically, fixing the most important personality traits to Mareş, as well as the particularities of his work.

For the realization of the doctoral thesis and the fulfillment of the established objectives, new materials were presented and promoted, exclusive information was highlighted, and the research methods used were: interview, analysis, investigation, synthesis and comparison. Thus, the methodological character of the work is given by the deepening of the entire literary work of the prose writer, for which I used a specific critical apparatus.

The preparation for writing the thesis consisted of a documentation activity that had as its object the reading of the texts proposed for analysis, as well as the critical resources that represented the source of the basic ideas. Also, the consulted bibliography was a vast one, including: dictionaries, critical studies in volumes and in periodicals, the entire work signed by Radu Mareş, among which I mention the novels, volumes of short prose, memories, published articles, as well as the prose writer's correspondence. I analyzed, interpreted and synthesized the content elements that I considered to be relevant for the comprehension and explanation of the literary work.

The present study is structured in seven chapters and subchapters and begins with a presentation of the life and significant events that marked the writer's destiny and existence. The first chapter, mirrored on the background of his career and symbolically named, *The relief of the biography*, has an introductory value and will contain confessions, new data, versions of the volumes, files, photos, aspects related to the backstage of the family, offered by the lawyer Dana Mares, the daughter of the writer and by Ileana Turkas, the second life partner of the studied author.

The next four chapters II, III, IV and V focus on the entire work of the exegete. The second chapter, *The first novels*, dwells on the prose *Anna or the bird of paradise* (a novel published in 1972, which marks the author's debut) and on the work *Wild horses* (1981).

An overall picture of the writer's portrait can be drawn from his volumes in which an autobiographical character is noticeable, found in the third chapter of the thesis, intended for the diaries, essays, memories and reports that the prose writer left us. Here, we included the volumes:

Vine istoria (1972), Pe cont propriu (1986), Manual de sinucidere (2003) și A fi în Bucovina (2016).

Chapter IV, the longest in terms of number of pages, called *Coming-of-age novels* includes the author's volumes published after 2000: *Anul trecut în Calabria* (2002), *Ecluza* (2006), *Când ne vom întoarce* (2010, 2015), *Deplasarea spre roșu* (2012) and *Odesa* (2016).

The portrait of the prose writer is completed by the last chapter devoted to the work, which includes the writer's two volumes of short prose: *Cel iubit* (1976) and *Sindromul Robinson* (2014). For each of these volumes I have carried out a critical and original analysis of the text. We also took into account the scientific publications of literary critics, written over time, in volumes and periodicals.

Started from an early age, from the first article signed in 1959, Radu Mareş's publishing represents a pillar in his literary activity. For this I have reserved the VI part of the work, where I will follow the articles that the journalist has published over time in periodicals. I proceeded to analyze several representative studies, in order to demonstrate the polyvalence of the writer and his multiple concerns, as well as the manner of approaching different fields.

Particularly important is the VIIth chapter of the work, which includes Radu Mareş's correspondence, materials not yet known to the public, letters and original conversations, received from friends and writers close to him, discovered in his office and put into circulation herewith thesis. The digitized and pre-operated conversations, we can say, provide the novelty element of the present research.

I believe that the theme of the thesis is a topical one, the study providing original research contributions. Its choice is due to the interest in writing about a contemporary author, less studied, and the uniqueness of the thesis is given by the fact that, until now, there is no monographic study done on this subject.

Without a doubt, Radu Mareş remains a valuable builder of prose, a writer who fulfilled his dream of remaining, until the end, faithful to this literary genre, contributing substantially to the evolution of Romanian literature, the autochthonous culture and the image of the Romanian novel after the Second World War.

In this research, I was supported by Mr. Prof. univ. Dr. Alexandru Cistelecan. His lordship offered me theoretical guidelines, advice and bibliography necessary for the preparation and realization of the thesis, he guided me, shedding light where I could not find sufficient arguments in the issue of this complex field of research, and, for the support I benefited from, I am grateful to him. I would also like to thank the guidance committee for their advice and support during doctoral school, during which I developed this paper.